WO 2005/090654 PCT/US2005/008414

## We claim:

1. A process to make a dyed fiber which comprises mixing at least one dye capable of changing color and at least one polymer into at least one solvent at a temperature below the temperature at which the dye or polymer degrades to form a polymer dye solution and electrospinning said polymer dye solution to form a fiber wherein the dye penetrates more than the surface of the fiber.

- The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said dye is uniformly dispersed through said fiber.
- The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said dye is photochromic compound, solvatochromic compound, magnetochromic, electrochromic, thermochromic compound, piezochromic compound, or leuco body.
- 4. The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein said dye is photochromic compound, solvatochromic compound, magnetochromic, electrochromic, thermochromic compound, piezochromic compound, or leuco body.
- The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein said leuco body is a triarylmethane
   dye, quinone dye, indigoide dye, or azine dye.
- 6. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said polymer is Poly(L-lactide)(PLA), 75/25 Poly(DL-lactide-co-E-caprolactone), 25/75 Poly(DL-lactide-co-E-caprolacto- ne), Poly(E-caprolactone), polyglycolic acid, polydioxanone, collagen, polytetrafluoroethylene, polyurethane, polyester, polypropylene, polyethylene, polybutylene or silicone.
- 7. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said polymer dye solution contains at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of hexafluoroisopropanol

WO 2005/090654 PCT/US2005/008414

, dichloromethane, dimethylacetamide, chloroform, dimethylformamide, methylene chloride, and xylene.

- 8. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said polymer is a polyester, polydimethyl isophthalate (DMI), polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polycarbonate, polystyrene, polyvinylidene chloride, polyvinylidene fluoride, polyethyleneoxide, nylon 6, nylon 6/6, nylon 11, nylon 12 or mixtures thereof.
- 9. The process as claimed in claim 8, wherein said at least one solvent is a high-volatile solvent group or a low-volatile solvent group or a mixture thereof.
- 10. The process as claimed in claim 9, wherein said solvent is acetone, chloroform, ethanol, isopropanol, methanol, toluene, tetrahydrofuran, water, benzene, benzyl alcohol, 1,4-dioxane, propanol, carbon tetrachloride, cyclohexane, cyclohexanone, methylene chloride, phenol, pyridine, trichloroethane or acetic acid; N,N-dimethyl formamide (DMF), dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), N,N-dimethylacetamide (DMAc), 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP), ethylene carbonate (EC), propylene carbonate (PC), dimethyl carbonate (DMC), acetonitrile (AN), N-methylmorpholine-N-oxide, butylene carbonate (BC), 1,4-butyrolactone (BL), diethyl carbonate (DEC), diethylether (DEE), 1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME), 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone (DMI), 1,3-dioxolane (DOL), ethyl methyl carbonate (EMC), methyl formate (MF), 3-methyloxazolidin-2-on (MO), methyl propionate (MP), 2-methyletetrahydrofurane (MeTHF) or sulpholane (SL).
- 11. A process to make a dyed fiber which comprises mixing
  at least a photochromic dye and/or a thermochromic dye and a polymethyl
  methacrylate polymer into a CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution to form a polymer dye solution and

WO 2005/090654 PCT/US2005/008414

- electrospinning said polymer dye solution to form a fiber wherein the dye penetrates more than the surface of the fiber.
- 12. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrospinning is conducted at room temperature.
- 13. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein there are at least two dyes capable of changing color being used.
- 14. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein there are at least two polymers being used.
- 15. A fiber made from the process as claimed in claim 1.
- 16. A camouflage material which comprises the fiber as claimed in claim 15.
- 17. A sensor which comprises the fiber as claimed in claim 15.
- 18. A sensing membrane which comprises the fiber as claimed in claim 15.
- 19. A counterfeit protector which comprises the fiber as claimed in claim 15.
- 20. An information storage mechanism which comprises the fiber as claimed in claim 15.
- 21. An optical switch which comprises the fiber as claimed in claim 15.